



What's New in the City

City of Natchitoches

16th Annual Bloomin' on the Bricks Named Southern Travel Treasure

March 1, 2016

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Bloomin' on the Bricks, the City of Natchitoches's annual spring and garden festival, was named a Southern Travel Treasure by *AAA Southern Traveler* magazine. The AAA publication reaches more than 424,000 homes in Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi. The annual festival which will be held on Saturday, March 19th from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on the downtown riverbank was selected as a Southern treasure for its appeal to readership. All are invited to enjoy the beauty of springtime at this free annual event.

Bloomin' on the Bricks, organized by the Natchitoches

Main Street Program, is a celebration of spring throughout the City's Historic District. Visitors will be able to see the beauty of springtime in downtown Natchitoches through its hanging flower baskets and thousands of daffodils and tulips planted along the riverbank. The event will feature lawn and garden vendors, live musical entertainment by the Luke Jazz Trio, children's activities, and food booths.

An exhibit area of lawn and garden vendors will display an assortment of items needed to transform your garden and yard this spring sea-

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Did you know?

- Keep Natchitoches Beautiful was the recipient of a 2015 Keep America Beautiful President's Circle Award. The President's Circle Award recognizes exemplary performance made by certified affiliates of the national nonprofit in creating clean, green and beautiful communities.
- The Natchitoches Young Professionals will host the Second Annual St. Patty's Day Pub Crawl on Saturday, March 19th. Visit www.natchitocheschamber.com for more information.
- Kasey's Heart & Soul: Run, Walk & Roll will take place on Saturday, March 12th on the downtown riverbank. For more information, contact Kristy Fredieu at KJRMemoiralfund@gmail.com.
- NSU's Department of Fine and Graphic Arts unveiled the campus's newest public art space in February, a colorful mosaic tile wall in a revitalized courtyard next to the Sylvan Friedman Student Union.

2016 Natchitoches Fishing Expo March 5th

The Cane Country Fly Casters will present the 2016 Natchitoches Fishing Expo Fly Fishing and Light Tackle Fishing Show on Saturday, March 5, 2016 from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Natchitoches Events Center. Admission to the show is free and open to the public.

The Natchitoches Fishing Expo is the Red River Region's top fishing event. Hosted by the Cane Country Fly Casters, a non-profit organization, the Expo is a biennial event held in even years. While the focus is on light tackle fishing, fly fishing, and kayak fishing for all species, the event also helps to promote similar organizations, outdoors agencies, and regional businesses that cater to the angler and their families.

Activities include seminars,

casting demonstrations, fly fishing demonstrations by many of the top fly tiers from Louisiana, Mississippi, Arkansas, Texas and elsewhere, kayak demonstrations, exhibitors and over 40 vendors. Raffle prizes galore. Great food is available for lunch.

For more information, please visit <http://canecountry.blogspot.com>.



Leaders Against Litter March 18th **Bloomin' (cont.)**



Leaders throughout Natchitoches Parish are joining Keep Natchitoches Beautiful to participate in the third annual "Leaders Against Litter" event Friday, March 18, 2016. Keep Natchitoches Beautiful is one of 29 Keep Louisiana Beautiful (KLB) affiliate communities across the state to host this statewide "litter-thon."

Keep Louisiana Beautiful and Volunteer Louisiana have invited hundreds of local elected officials, stakeholders, community leaders, school and church leaders and potential supporters to participate in the Leaders Against Litter event conducted in 29 cities and parishes throughout the state. On March 18th, affiliates will simultaneously conduct a litter cleanup with the help of volunteer community leaders. The goal is to shed some light on the litter problem in Louisiana and to engage leaders in our efforts to make Louisiana litter-free.

Leaders Against Litter is set to begin at 9:00 a.m. at the MLK Recreational Community Center located at 660 MLK Drive in Natchitoches. The group will travel along MLK Drive collecting litter using golden grabbers and wearing matching Leaders Against Litter T-shirts. Following the cleanup, the leaders will be asked to sign a pledge to SPEAK UP and spread the word that litter is not acceptable, to PICK UP litter whenever they see it, and to STAND UP and lead the way for a litter-free Louisiana.

Later that day, Keep Louisiana Beautiful and Volunteer Louisiana will announce the statewide results, along with numbers of pledges signed and bags of trash picked up at a 2:00 p.m. press conference at the State Capitol in Baton Rouge.

For more information on Leaders Against Litter or how to volunteer with Keep Natchitoches Beautiful, please call (318) 352-2746.

Music Morning March 12th

The Mrs. H.D. Dear Sr. and Alice E Dear School of Creative and Performing Arts at Northwestern State University will present Music Morning Saturday, March 12th.

The free program at the A.A. Fredericks Center for Creative and Performing Arts is for children age four to 11. Those attending can take part in a variety of music experiences such as singing, music games, instrument demonstrations and music crafts. Music education majors Tiffany Johnson of Bossier City, Kristina Pfantz of DeRidder, Lauren Schexnayder of Kaplan and associate professor of music Sharon Joy are coordinating the event. Johnson is president of Northwestern State's chapter of the National Association of Music Educators.

"This event has been planned by music education students who are committed to bringing music to Natchitoches children," said Joy. "It's exciting to see this passion among our students."

Registration starts at 8:00 a.m. and activities begin at 8:30 a.m. and last until noon. Music Morning will conclude with a group singalong and presentation of what the children learned.

For more information contact Joy at joys@nsula.edu or (318) 357-5754.



(Continued from page 1)

son. Nursery owners from around the area will sell specialized plants such as ferns, herbs, shrubs, flowering baskets and bedding plants. Vendors will also sell lawn and garden materials and equipment including paving stones, ironwork, pottery, lawn mowers, and outdoor furniture. Vendor spaces are available for \$50 per each 10x10 space.

Children of all ages will be able to take Easter pictures with live bunny rabbits from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Photos are \$5 for emailed photographs and \$6 for printed 4x6 photographs. The Easter Bunny photo shoot is sponsored by the Natchitoches Parish 4-H Junior Leaders.

Les Amies Service Organization will host the 13th Annual Ann Williams Brittain Butterfly Release during Bloomin' on the Bricks. The release is held in honor of the first president and founding member of the Les Amies Service Organization, Ann Williams Brittain, who passed away in 2003 after a courageous battle with cancer. The Release will take place at the Fleur de Lis Stage on the downtown riverbank at 1:00 p.m. Participants can purchase an individual butterfly to be released at a cost of \$30 per butterfly or choose to have a loved one honored during the mass butterfly release at a cost of \$5 per honoree. All proceeds from the Butterfly Release will be donated to the American Cancer Society.

In addition, the Natchitoches Art Guild and Gallery will host Art Along the Bricks on Saturday, March 19th in conjunction with Bloomin' on the Bricks. Art Along the Bricks will take place from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. along Front Street. Art Along the Bricks serves to provide visitors to the Natchitoches Historic District opportunities to see the latest offerings in fine arts and crafts as local and area artists display their work in an outdoor art show. Vendors and artists of fine arts and crafts (defined as hand-made) are encouraged to participate. Spaces are \$50 per 10x10 space. For more information on Art Along the Bricks, please contact the Natchitoches Art Guild and Gallery at (318) 352-1626.

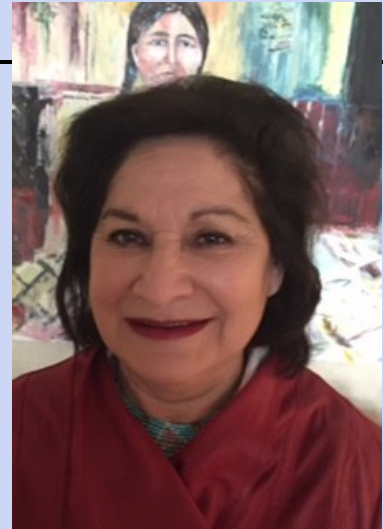
For more information on Bloomin' on the Bricks or to become a vendor, please contact the City of Natchitoches Main

CRNHA to Host “A Taste of Heritage” Lunch Lecture Series Starting March 17th

Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc. (CRNHA) and the US Army Corps of Engineers Grand Ecore Visitors Center are proud to announce the upcoming lecture series, “Welcome Home.” This series will focus on the ways in which the unique communities of the Cane River region preserve their familial and cultural bonds in the modern world.

Dorsey Ebarb Bronson, a tribal elder of the Choctaw-Apache Tribe of Ebarb, will present at the first lecture on March 17, 2016. Bronson has documented many of her community’s foodways in her recently published book entitled, *Louisiana Cooking by Native American Choctaw-Apache*. From tamales to fry bread, Bronson will discuss the importance and power of food in the preservation of culture. In addition, she will present a video of her grandfather rendering a hog - highlighting how, what was once a common tradition among many communities continues today among the Choctaw-Apache.

The first *Welcome Home Lunchtime Lecture* entitled, “A Taste of Heritage: Fry Bread Cooking & Tamale Demonstration” will take place on Thursday, March 17, 2016 at the Grand Ecore Visitor Center located at 106 Tauzin Road. A meet and greet with Bronson is scheduled to begin at 11:00 a.m. The lecture is scheduled to begin at 12:00 p.m. This event is free and open to the public. Brown bag lunches will be available for those who RSVP in advance to SFullen@CaneRiverNHA.org or call (318) 356-5555. The deadline to RSVP for a brown bag lunch is March 14, 2016. For more information, please visit www.CaneRiverNHA.org.



NSU Theatre & Dance Presents “Really Really”

Northwestern Theatre and Dance will perform the drama “Really Really” March 9 - 13 and 16 - 19 in Theatre West. Show time is 7:30 p.m. except for a March 13 matinee at 2:00 p.m. The play contains content that may not be suitable for children.

Tickets are \$15, \$12 for children and seniors and Northwestern State, BPCC@nsu and LSMSA students are admitted free with a current student ID. For ticket information, call (318) 357-4483.

“Really Really” is about a group of Generation Me college students in the aftermath of a wild campus party. The play, one of off-Broadway’s most acclaimed hits upon its New York premiere, takes a disturbing look at Generation Me and its unstoppable quest for success at all costs. “Really Really” is edgy, funny, caustic, and shocking, but thoughtful and weighty enough to hold its own even among audience members who think tweeting’s for birds and “Glee” is an after school activity.

The play raises questions about a generation so quick to demand things (money, sex, power) that it doesn’t stop to consider what they cost. A post-show discussion of issues raised in the play will be held after each performance.



NSU President’s Command Performance March 18

NSU will host the third annual President’s Command Performance, a spring gala to celebrate the arts, Friday, March 18th. NSU will honor select individuals who have made significant contributions to the arts while showcasing the talents of NSU’s creative and performing arts students and faculty.



This year’s inductees to the Mrs. H.D. Dear Sr. and Alice Estelle Dear School of Creative and Performing Arts will be Mrs. Lenn Dohmann Prince, Dr. Colleen Lancaster and Dr. Jerry Payne. Individuals inducted into the CAPA Hall of Fame are recommended and chosen based on their lifetime achievements and contributions to the life of the arts at NSU, Natchitoches, the region, the state, nationally and internationally.

The President’s Command Performance will begin with music, cocktails and hors d’oeuvres at 6:00 p.m. in the Alumni Plaza in tandem with a silent auction. The main performances, featuring music ensembles, vocalists and dance performances, will take place in A.A. Fredericks Auditorium at 7:30 p.m.

Individual tickets are \$65 per person and \$125 per couple in advance or can be purchased at the event for \$75 per person and \$150 per couple. For tickets, sponsorship and program ad information, call NSU’s Office of University Advancement at (318) 357-5213 or visit northwesternalumni.com/PCP16.

Music at the Museum March 12

Oldest Permanent
Settlement in the
Louisiana Purchase

P.O. Box 37
700 Second Street
Natchitoches, La. 71458

Phone: 318-352-2772

Fax: 318-357-3829

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cityhall@natchitochesla.gov

The public is invited to join the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame and Northwest Louisiana History Museum for a special performance by the NSU Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Dr. Douglas Bakenhus as part of their 50th anniversary season on Saturday, March 12 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Enjoy "The Cajun Cornbread Boy" story time for kids, reenactors portraying several of northwest Louisiana's great athletes and historical figures, and flower arrangements by the

St. Denis Garden Club from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. as you explore the museum's outstanding exhibits. The evening includes a reception of drinks and light hors d'oeuvres sponsored by FLASH (Friends of Louisiana Sports and History), the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame Foundation and the St. Denis Garden Club. Concert begins at 6:00 p.m.

The event is free and open to the public. For more information, please call (318) 357-2492



Upcoming Holidays & Important Dates

Mar. 1: Planning & Zoning Meeting, 5:30 p.m. at the Natchitoches Arts Center

Mar. 5: Natchitoches Fishing Expo, 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. at the Natchitoches Events Center

Mar. 7: Historic District Commission Meeting, 5:00 p.m. at the Natchitoches Arts Center

Mar. 12: Kasey's Heart & Soul: Run, Rock & Roll. Registration 6:45 a.m. Race begins at 8:00 a.m. on the Downtown Riverbank.

Mar. 12: Music Morning, 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. at A.A. Fredericks Auditorium

Mar. 12: Music at the Museum, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. at the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame & Northwest Louisiana History Museum

Mar. 14: City Council Meeting, 5:30 p.m. at the Natchitoches Arts Center

Mar. 17: St. Patrick's Day

Mar. 17: Historic District Development Commission Meeting, 10:00 a.m. at the Natchitoches Arts Center

Mar. 17: A Taste of Heritage Lunch Lecture. 11:00 a.m. Book Signing, 12:00 p.m. Lecture. Grand Ecore Visitors Center

Mar. 18: Leaders Against Litter, 9:00 a.m. at the MLK Recreational Community Center

Mar. 18: NSU's President's Command Performance. 6:00 p.m. Cocktail Hour at Alumni Plaza. Performance 7:30 p.m. at A.A. Fredericks Auditorium.

Mar. 19: Bloomin' on the Bricks, 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. on the Downtown Riverbank

Mar. 19: Art Along the Bricks, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. on Front Street

Mar. 19: NYP St. Patty's Day Pub Crawl, 5:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. in Downtown Natchitoches

Mar. 21: Airport Commission Meeting, 5:00 p.m. at Natchitoches Regional Airport

Mar. 25: Good Friday. City Offices Closed

Mar. 28: City Council Meeting, 5:30 p.m. at the Natchitoches Arts Center

